Fiscal Estimate - 2003 Session

Original		Updated		Corrected		Supplemental
LRB Number	03-2254/	1	Introd	luction Nu	mber S	B-163
Subject			-			
Clearinghouse fo	special ed and	voc ed opportu	inities			
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives DPI 6/12/2003

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Subject			
Clearinghouse for special ed an	d voc ed opportunities		

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill directs the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to cooperate with the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and the Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) in the establishment of a clearinghouse for information about the special education transition services and vocational opportunities that are available in each county. Each of the three departments must post information about the clearinghouse on its Internet site.

Although not titled a "clearinghouse," the Wisconsin Statewide Transition Initiative (WSTI) is a DPI project that offers a comprehensive approach to providing transition services. The project director, the DPI transition consultant and 12 transition coordinators located in regional Cooperative Educational Service Agency (CESA) offices provide transition support services, information dissemination, and staff development. The WSTI project coordinates the efforts of state agencies, county agencies, community and social service agencies, school districts, CESAs, businesses and others to make information about transition services available. Coordination is accomplished through state transition services (CESAs), county Transition Advisory Councils (TACs) and school district Transition Action Teams (TATs). The WSTI is working toward providing a link to every county's available services through a point of entry manual (POEM). Currently, 51 of the 72 Wisconsin counties are participating in the project, and 37 counties have developed POEMs. It is anticipated, and is a goal of the project, that participation will increase each year. The DPI website includes a link to the WSTI website.

DPI, DWD and DHFS work cooperatively in making transition services available, and interagency agreements exist between DPI and DWD (Division for Vocational Rehabilitation) and between DPI and DHFS (Division of Supportive Living). These agreements are posted on the respective agency websites.

It is assumed that the department would meet the requirements of this bill by continuing the interagency agreements with DWD and DHFS and by continuing the expansion of the WSTI project. The bill would have no fiscal effect on the Department of Public Instruction.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications